

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

Original
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SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Okinawa Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

September 1988

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1.

C/Ops

19 OCT 1988

RAB 95

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3.

AC/E&PS

20 Oct

pw

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DD/FBIS

20 Oct

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[Signature]

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Exec. Reg.

UNITED STATES FORCES, JAPAN
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
OKINAWA BUREAU
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96239

FBIS 5023-88
3 October 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
FROM: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Okinawa Bureau - September 1988

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I. GENERAL

Okinawa Bureau was selected as the "beta" test site for the new press agency software for the field bureaus. Equipment setup, installation of software, testing of equipment and software, and training of bureau employees began the week of 19 September. By the end of the month, the system administrators and most of the editors had been trained. The system acceptance test was completed 27 September and the operational readiness demonstration began on 3 October. To date the "beta" test has remained on schedule. Editors who have been trained on the system find the new software to be much faster than the old user database. It is easier to move from press agency to press agency, very easy to review items, and is almost instantaneous to switch from Writenow to the press agency system. IOC is still projected for 14 October.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The weekend of 16-18 September was particularly busy for bureau personnel. While checking various satellites on 16 September, the cruising unit intercepted a television feed from Krasnoyarsk on the Gorbachev meeting with representatives of the local working people. Gorbachev spoke for approximately 2 hours and ended his speech with a 7-point proposal on Asian affairs. The two Russian monitors on duty turned out a series of FYI's on the meeting and the speech as well as the first two takes of the speech. On 18 September, the bureau filed several "Z's" on the Burmese coup and the next day we began filing the first of many reports on the emperor's current health problems.

2. KYODO English increased its transmission time by 3 hours daily effective 5 September to provide "more extensive

coverage of domestic and international news items." We have included these expanded hours in our coverage.

B. Cruising

1. During the course of spot checking satellites on 7 September the cruising unit observed that a third unidentified Soviet satellite had been moved into collocation with the Statsionar-13 Gorizont 10 and the Potok 2 satellites at 80.0 degrees east. The satellite was observed to have three unmodulated video carriers, each with two audio subcarriers transmitting the audio for either or both Moscow TV and radio. Bureau speculates that the new satellite may be the Russian satellite formerly observed at 95.0 degrees east.

2. In response to a BBC report that Ethiopian television was observed carried on the 66.0 east domestic leased services Intelsat satellite, the Bureau cruising unit confirmed this development and provided additional cruising information which included transmission spans, signon/off announcements in English and programming content including three 20-minute newscasts -- one in English.

3. With the introduction of winter time in the Soviet Union on 25 September, the cruising unit undertook and completed extensive cruising checks of the Moscow International Service and Radio Peace and Progress programs beamed to Asia. The unit also began checking Beijing Domestic and International Service broadcasts on bureau coverage to verify the winter broadcast schedules.

C. Lateral Services

1. In view of the increasingly tense situation in Burma during the month, one of our local consumers, CG III MAF, asked FBIS to increase his lateral services to include all items dealing with Burma.

2. At a recent MIA/POW reception, local military consumers told the bureau representative that they appreciated the bureau's full and timely coverage of Okinawan events.

3. At the request of the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, we asked London Bureau to refile a 2 September PRAVDA interview with the chairman of the KGB.

D. Technical

1. With headquarters approval, a contract was signed on 3 October with Kanehide Iron Works, Ltd. for construction and

installation of the Skylink antenna steel platform. Estimated time to complete the platform is 30 to 40 days.

2. Technical assistance was provided by ATO Manila to check out the ICT systems. Both systems are now fully operational.

3. The 7.5 meter Roset dish was placed aboard a ship on 26 September and is due to arrive in Okinawa on 8 October.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Chinese monitors [redacted] were promoted to FBN-9 and FBN-10 respectively, during a ceremony in the Bureau Chief's office.

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2. Editorial trainees [redacted] and families arrived on 2 and 3 September.

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3. Interviews were conducted with three more applicants for the two bureau secretarial/communicator positions which will become vacant in the spring and summer of 1989.

4. LEC TDYer's [redacted] and [redacted] arrived 16, 17 and 26 September for the PA "beta" test. Headquarters engineer [redacted] arrived TDY on 24 September.

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B. Buildings and Grounds

1. A contract was signed for the construction of five storage sheds for the renovated four bedroom units which lost storage space during the renovation process.

2. The bureau carpenter completed a specialized computer desk and a partition to divide a room as an office for the logs officer and the system administrator.

IV. VISITORS

To The Bureau:

[redacted] Tokyo Embassy telecommunications officer for discussions, 6-7 September; Jack Dickerson, DOD SpecRep, and two Washington TDYers [redacted] for bureau orientation and briefing on 12 September; Tom Callow, American Consulate Naha, to introduce new staffer Jeff Tunis to the Bureau on 14 September; Charles Gibson, DOD SpecRep for Okinawa, and Robert Meck, DOD SpecRep for Japan, visited the Bureau for briefing and orientation tour on 20 September; ATO Manila

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TDYer for consultations 24-28 September and Capt. Douglas Wills,
CO, U.S. Naval Security Group for briefing and tour on 27
September.

From The Bureau:

Bureau Chief to Headquarters for Bureau Chiefs' Conference
12-25 September; deputy bureau chief [redacted] on 13 September
to a DOD SpecRep reception for Dr. Botsai, DODSpec Rep Pearl
Harbor and Robert Meck, DOD Spec Rep Japan; deputy chief
representing bureau at POW/MIA remembrance on 16 September; and
Bureau Chief to 313th commander's call on 29 September.

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